Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
17.	Safflower		1100	1200	1300
18.	Toria		1065	1165	1265
19.	Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil (F2 Gr)	25.00	26.00	27.00
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil (L2 Gr)	27.00	28.00	29.00
20.	Copra	Milling	3100	3250	3300
	(Calendar Year)	Ball	3325	3500	3550
21.	Sesamum		1205	1300	1400
22.	Nigerseed		915	1025	1100

Procurement of farmers' produce at village level

†1774. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to procure the produce of farmers by Government, at their villages, on rates fixed by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government fixes each season the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of major agricultural commodities and organizes price support operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (FCI), Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. The designated Central nodal agencies open adequate number of purchase centres in different States in consultation with the State Governments. In the case of FCI, the directive of Prime Minister for opening centres within a radius of 10 kms. distance from farmers village is kept in view.

Ground water imbalance in Punjab

1775. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.